

Dear Commissioners:

I ask you to look closely at the disastrous effects that previous relaxation of ownership limits has had on the public airwaves and beg you to vote against more such relaxation.

Despite the claim that public airways have diminished in importance since the advent of the Internet, the fact remains that local stations remain the only source for the important local information upon which people rely. Traffic, weather, disaster alerts... all are vital information that cannot and will not be provided by national conglomerates. The Dakota debacle is only one example of the disinterest in local affairs displayed by monopolies such as Clearchannel.

Another recent example is the orders from Clearchannel management that 'local' DJs (i.e. regional playlist technicians) drop music by the Dixie Chicks, purely as political retribution.

The airways remain a public resource, and your job is to serve the interest of the public, not the profits of the monopolies (who will do just fine, thank you, without your help in expanding their empires.)

Sincerely

Jerry Ballard

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